**Genesis 1 to 6: 8 (B’resheet).**

Commencing in Genesis 1: 1 we read: ***“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”*** For us who have proven the existence of HASHEM our God and that the Scriptures is the word of God from Genesis to Revelation, HASHEM created the universes through His Word, and we cannot argue the point, as we read in Psalm 33: 6: ***‘By the word of HASHEM the heavens were made.’***

From the very beginning our Father HASHEM planned to bring forth beings that could become his helpers. These helpers or ‘children’ would be like Him in every respect. They would have His character reproduced in them by His Set-apart Spirit. Each one of these created beings would have freedom to choose between right and wrong. HASHEM commenced His plan to reproduce Himself by creating powerful spiritual beings called angels. These angels were free moral agents, with the ability to choose to go the way of HASHEM: the way of giving and sharing; or the wrong way - which is in essence a way of get. For millions of years these angels followed the correct way, until one day, a third of the angels followed the archangel Lucifer in rebellion against HASHEM to take over His throne in the third heaven. They fought against the other two thirds of the created angels, still loyal to the Eternal. However, they were overcome and thrown down to earth, where they are now living as fallen angels or demons (Revelation 12: 3 and the 1st part of verse 4). Satan, who was perfect in all his ways, prior to his rebellion, unlike us, who are partly blinded and do not have all knowledge, sinned with full knowledge. These angels, who are spirit beings, could therefore not change once they had decided to follow a life of wrongdoing (Isaiah 14: 12 - 15).

As a result of the war between the angels and demons, it left the world formless and void or in confusion (‘Tohu’ and ‘bohu’ in Hebrew). As we read in 1 Corinthians 14: 33, HASHEM is not the author of confusion and did not create the Universe in that state. This is the condition we see the earth in when we open our Scriptures at Genesis 1: 2. At that point in time HASHEM decides to recreate the heavens and the earth. From reading the first chapter of Genesis we notice that we are different from the plants and animals that HASHEM our God created. We read in Genesis 1: 21: ***‘And God created the great sea monsters, and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarmed after their kind, and every winged bird after its kind; and God saw that it was good.’*** Continuing on in verses 25 and 26 of Genesis 1, we read: ***‘And God made the beasts of the earth after their kind, and the cattle after their kind, and everything that creeps on the ground after its kind; and God saw that it was good.*** (26) ***Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our Likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”’*** Here we see that we are different form animals. We see that, different to them, we are made in the image of God. We were created to have a relationship with HASHEM our God, distinctly different to the animal life that God created. The image of God is a manifestation of God which served as the pattern or blue print according to which Adam was created.

The question is: why did HASHEM create us? If we consider all the birds, fish and animals that God created, we realize that very few of them are able to think, plan and/or make what they planned and designed. Yes, weaver birds build nests and beavers build dams, but all their nests and dams are built according to the same model. They are never able to improve or make their nests or dams according to another pattern. They like all animals and insects do things strictly according to instinct and not by design, like their human counter parts, do. Human beings are able to design and build homes, cars, airplanes, ships, submarines, computers and whatever they require to achieve their goals. Over time man learned to use metals, make bricks and build phenomenal structures. Mankind developed explosives allowing him to literally move mountains. However, because our forefathers did not obey HASHEM in the Garden of Eden, mankind also learnt how to develop explosives powerful enough to destroy the entire population of the earth a number of times over. Why did HASHEM create man with such incredible intellect to make whatever is required to make life easy, yet so destructive and totally helpless to solve key problems? When studying the Scriptures, we will soon realize that when HASHEM created man in the beginning, man was not in his final finished form.

HASHEM created mankind from physical matter, in His image, with mind power to think, plan and create. But, He created them with free moral agency to decide between good and evil. HASHEM planned mankind to eventually become the ultimate masterpiece of all his creation – when finished millions of us, subsequently will be made spirit beings in the kingdom of God. We read in Genesis 2: 7: ***‘Then HASHEM God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.’***  When HASHEM breathed into man the breath of life he became a living soul. We read in John 4: 24 that God is composed of Spirit and not of physical matter. Nowhere in the Scriptures do we read about an immortal soul. As opposed to man, HASHEM being composed of Spirit, is immortal and cannot die. We read in Genesis 3: 19, HASHEM said to Adam, ***“By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, because from it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”*** Even though eternal life was available to Adam and Eve, they did not embrace it yet. We read accordingly in Genesis 3: 22 that they did not take from the tree of life, which was also in the midst of the garden, to eat of it and live forever.

Man at that time had to make a choice. They had to choose to eat the fruit of the tree of life, or the forbidden tree of knowledge of good and evil. They had to show through their lives that they would develop the perfect character of HASHEM and follow His way of life. But, HASHEM has allowed all of mankind to be led into sin by Satan, thus allowing us to see for ourselves where disobedience to His teachings leads us. We read in the first part of Romans 6: 23: ***‘For the wages of sin is death.’*** As opposed to Satan's lie, that after disobeying HASHEM our forefathers would not die, death was introduced. Induced by the lies and temptation of Satan, Adam and Eve sinned. Since then all humankind have sinned and fall short of the esteem of HASHEM. Death spread to all humankind through the sins of our forefathers. We’ve seen that the wages of sin is death and as opposed to Satan's lie, that after disobeying HASHEM, our forefathers would not die, death was introduced. This was indeed a bleak picture, which left humankind in a miserable condition.

Reading from Genesis 3: 21 we see: ***“And HASHEM God made garments of skin[[1]](#footnote-1) for Adam and his wife, and clothed them.”***HASHEM did not slaughter a lamb and covered them in lamb skin after their sin – no He put skin (derma) on their bodies. Many Christians, Messianic Jews and even Nazarene Jews/Israelites believe that in the account in Genesis 3: 21 HASHEM slaughtered a lamb as sacrifice for their sin and dressed Adam and Eve in lamb skin. However, the Scriptures do not say that. HASHEM did not start the sacrificial system at this stage. Later when Abraham was to sacrifice Isaac, HASHEM showed Abraham that He will eventually provide Himself the lamb as a sacrifice to redeem us back from the sins of the world. He will pay our indebtedness due, resulting from our sins, as our Kinsman Redeemer. Originally our forefathers were destined to live forever they were created in the image of God according to Genesis 1: 27. We know from Colossians 1: 15 that Y’shua is the visible image of the invisible God.

Before they sinned Adam and Eve looked like the image of God described in Ezekiel 1: 26 – 28, as follows: ***‘Now above the expanse that was over their heads there was something resembling a throne, like lapis lazuli in appearance; and on that which resembled a throne, high up, was a figure with the appearance of a man.*** (27) ***Then I noticed from the appearance of His loins and upward something like glowing metal that looked like fire all around within it, and from the appearance of His loins downward I saw something like fire; and there was a radiance around Him.*** (28) ***As the appearance of the rainbow in the clouds on a rainy day, so was the appearance of the surrounding radiance. Such was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of HASHEM. And when I saw it, I fell on my face and heard a voice speaking.’*** This is similar to what Y’shua looked like, when He was transfigured before Kepha (Peter), Yaakov (James) and Yochanan (John) in Matthew 17: 2, in this way: ***‘And He was transfigured before them; and His face shone like the sun, and His garments became as white as light.’*** HASHEM is covered in light as we read in Psalm 104: 1 & 2: ***‘Bless HASHEM, O my soul! O HASHEM my God, Thou art very great; Thou art clothed with splendor and majesty,*** (2) ***covering Thyself with light as a cloak, stretching out heaven like a tent curtain.’***  Those of us who are called at this time will one day again be clothed in light, to become immortal spiritual beings, if we overcome and make it into the kingdom of God. We read about this in 2 Corinthians 5: 1 – 4, as follows: ***‘For we know that if the earthly tent which is our house is torn down, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.*** (2) ***For indeed in this house we groan, longing to be clothed with our dwelling from heaven;*** (3) ***inasmuch as we, having put it on, shall not be found naked.*** (4) ***For indeed while we are in this tent, we groan, being burdened, because we do not want to be unclothed, but to be clothed, in order that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life.’*** Yes, immediately after creation, mankind looked like the transfigured Y’shua, covered in light. However, when they sinned, their light covering was removed and they were covered in skin. Since then all men are destined to die once; we are physical and therefore we age and eventually die.

Next we read about the events that occurred to man after they were driven out of the garden of Eden. Adam and Eve conceived and gave birth to Cain. After this she gave birth to Cain’s brother and called him Abel. In Genesis 4: 3 – 5 we read for the first time about the concept of first fruits; we see here, that HASHEM had no regard for Cain’s offering, as follows: ***‘So it came about in the course of time that Cain brought an offering to HASHEM of the fruit of the ground.*** (4) ***And Abel, on his part also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of their fat portions. And HASHEM had regard for Abel and for his offering;*** (5) ***but for Cain and for his offering He had no regard. So Cain became very angry and his countenance fell.’*** The reason why Cain’s offering was not accepted by HASHEM, was that it was not of the first fruit of the ground, as was the case with Abel’s offering; of the firstlings of his flock. Even though Cain was the firstborn son of Adam and Eve, he lost his firstborn right to Abel, because of disobedience. The account of Cain and his brother Abel conclude, with Cain killing his brother. Cain went out from the presence of HASHEM and settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden. Then Adam and Eve had another son whom they called Seth. We read at the end of Genesis 4 in verse 26, when a son was born to Seth, he named him Enosh and ***‘Then men began to call upon the name of HASHEM.’*** The meanings of the Hebrew names of our original ancestors in Genesis 5 reveal (HASHEM)’s plan to send His suffering Messiah, as a mortal, who would die for us:

In Hebrew: *Adam* means ‘man’; *Seth* means ‘appointed’; *Enosh* means ‘mortal’; *Kenan* means ‘sorrow’; *Mahalalel* means ‘the blessed God’; *Jared* means ‘shall come down’; *Enoch* means ‘teaching’; *Methuselah* means ‘his death shall bring’; *Lamech* means ‘the despairing’; and *Noah* means ‘rest’ or ‘comfort.’

Reading this genealogy of names as a sentence, translating them from Hebrew to English, we get: *“Man is appointed mortal sorrow. The blessed God shall come down, teaching that His death shall bring the despairing comfort.”*

This shows indirectly but clearly that the God Incarnated Messiah would give His life for us, as Y’shua did.

Finally we read in Genesis 6, that the sons of God, i.e. those people who walked with God like Noah did, took for themselves daughters of men, who bore children to them. These daughters of men were obviously the offspring of Cain, who went from the presence of God, and were no longer known as the ‘sons’ of God. Now I know that there are some who insist that this is talking about children of the fallen angels or demons, but this cannot be true as Y’shua, who is HASHEM in the flesh, said that angels cannot have marital relations in Matthew 22: 30, as follows: ***“For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven.”*** Cain’s children were brutal wicked people and the result of this union with them, resulted in what we read in verse 5 & 6 of Genesis 6, as follows: ***‘Then HASHEM saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.*** (6) ***And HASHEM was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart.’*** We conclude this parasha with the words: ***‘But Noah found favor in the eyes of HASHEM.’***

1. *In Hebrew both the word light (אור) and skin (עור) are pronounced as ‘ohr’, however, the word light is spelled with an aleph and skin with an ayin.*  [↑](#footnote-ref-1)